

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action mailed September 17, 2003, Applicants respond to the points raised by the Examiner.

Initially, Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the indication of allowability of claims 10 and 11.

The specification was objected to for not positively stating a range of material thickness that is bounded at the upper end to 5 mils. By this amendment, claims 17-21 have been amended to recite an upper bound of 10 mils, as shown in Figure 7, and a corresponding amendment to the written description portion of the Specification to note this upper boundary. The specification describes, and Figure 7 illustrates, optimum results for a range of thicknesses based on increasing flexural moduli of a number of different materials. The highest point of the curve is the point marked by an "x-PS," which represents a thickness of 10 mils. In view of the amendment to the claims and specification, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is requested.

Claim 15 was rejected for lack of antecedent basis for the limitation "the folding axis." Claim 15 has been amended to depend from claim 10, which Applicants submit overcomes the rejection to this claim. Withdrawal of the § 112, paragraph 2 rejection is believed appropriate.

All claims stand rejected as being either anticipated under 102(e) or obvious under 103/102(e) in view of Nelson et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,568,123 (Nelson et al.). The Examiner cites to the resonator 64 as being pertinent to the pending claims.

Submitted herewith are Declarations of inventors Nelson and Crawley to remove the Nelson et al. as reference against the pending claims. These Declarations establish that the

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Amdt. Dated Oct. __, 2003

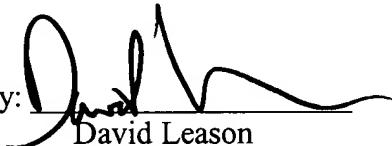
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portion of Nelson et al. that is being relied upon by the Examiner represents applicants' own work. In view of these Declarations, withdrawal of the rejections under §102(e) and §§ 103/102(e) is warranted. See MPEP 2136.05.

Reconsideration and allowance of all claims is now believed to be appropriate. A prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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